

REMARKS

Claim 1 was previously canceled. Claims 2, 4 and 5 are amended herein. Support for the Amendment is found, for example, on pages 17 to 26 and specific examples such as P-6, P-11, P-12 and P-21 on pages 30, 31, and 33, which are also used in the Examples of the present invention. No new matter is presented. Accordingly claims 2-19 will be all of the claims pending in the application upon entry of the Amendment.

I. Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Tan et al (JP 11-038635 and its machine-assisted English translation provided by the Japan Patent Office).

Applicants respectfully submit that Tan does not disclose all elements of the presently claimed invention. Independent claims 2, 4 and 5 are amended herein to recite that the planographic printing plate precursor comprises an intermediate layer containing a polymer having a structure represented by formula (I), Formula (I-a) and formula (I-b), respectively, and at least one group selected from an onium group and an acidic group at its side chain and an infrared laser photosensitive positive recording layer. Tan does not disclose the recited polymer having the specific configuration presently claimed. Thus the present invention is not anticipated by Tan.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

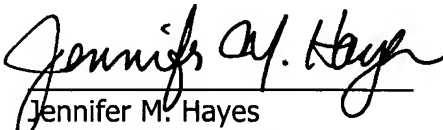
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. App. Ser. No. 10/803,999

Atty. Dckt. No. Q80517

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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